Senate Engrossed House Bill

FILED JANICE K. BREWER SECRETARY OF STATE

State of Arizona House of Representatives Forty-eighth Legislature Second Regular Session 2008

CHAPTER 111

HOUSE BILL 2469

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 15-103, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; AMENDING TITLE 15, CHAPTER 1, ARTICLE 1, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING SECTION 15-107; AMENDING SECTIONS 15-203, 15-272, 15-304, 15-341 AND 23-355, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; REPEALING LAWS 2005, CHAPTER 274, SECTION 2, AS AMENDED BY LAWS 2007, CHAPTER 234, SECTION 3; AMENDING LAWS 2007, CHAPTER 234, SECTION 5; AMENDING LAWS 2007, CHAPTER 238, SECTION 1; RELATING TO SCHOOL FINANCE.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

- j -

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

Section 1. Section 15-103, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended effective from and after June 30, 2008, to read:

15-103. School districts: financial mismanagement: intervention: violation: classification: definitions

- A. The state board of education shall review allegations of school district insolvency and gross mismanagement. The state board shall give the school district an opportunity to respond to these allegations at a public meeting. If the state board determines that the school district is insolvent or has grossly mismanaged its finances, the state board shall appoint a receiver for that school district.
- B. The state board shall find a school district insolvent if it finds one or more of the following:
- 1. The school district is unable to pay debts as they fall due or in the usual course of business.
- 2. The salaries of any teachers or other employees have remained unpaid for forty-five days.
- 3. The tuition due another school district or other state institution remains unpaid on or after January 1 of the year following the school year it was due and there is no dispute regarding the validity or amount of the claim.
- 4. The school district has defaulted in payment of its bonds or interest on bonds or in payment of rentals due any state or federal authority or private business for a period of sixty calendar days and no action has been initiated within that period of time to make payment.
- 5. The school district has contracted for any loan not authorized by law.
- 6. The school district has accumulated and has operated with a deficit equal to five per cent or more of the school district's revenue control limit for any fiscal year within the past two fiscal years OR THE CONDITIONS PRESCRIBED IN SECTION 15-107 HAVE OCCURRED.
- 7. The school district's warrants have not been honored for payment by the school district's servicing bank or by the county treasurer and the warrants have remained unpaid for a period of more than sixty calendar days.
- C. No school district shall be deemed to be insolvent pursuant to subsection B of this section if the circumstances are the result of the failure of the state to make any payments of monies due the school district at the time payment is due.
- D. The state board of education shall have jurisdiction over all petitions requesting that a school district be placed in receivership and a receiver be appointed because of the school district's alleged insolvency or gross mismanagement. The state board shall have the burden of demonstrating by a preponderance of the evidence that the school district is insolvent or is engaged in gross mismanagement.

- 1 -

- E. If the state board of education finds that the school district is insolvent or has engaged in gross mismanagement, the state board shall place the school district in receivership and appoint a receiver recommended by the state board. The state board shall develop and adopt a list of qualified receivers to be appointed by the board.
- F. On appointment, the receiver MAY PERFORM ANY OF THE ACTIONS PRESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPHS 1 THROUGH 11 OF THIS SUBSECTION AND shall begin a full review and investigation of the school district's financial affairs and submit to the state board of education a detailed report listing the findings of that investigation that shall include a financial improvement plan and budget that details how the school district will eliminate any continued gross financial mismanagement and achieve financial solvency. The plan shall include a proposed timeline for achieving financial solvency. The receiver shall submit the report within one hundred twenty days after the receiver's appointment. The financial improvement plan approved by the state board of education may authorize the receiver to do any of the following:
- 1. Override any decisions of the school district's governing board or the school district superintendent, or both, concerning the management and operation of the school district, and initiate and make decisions concerning the management and operation of the school district.
- 2. Attend any and all meetings of the school district's governing board and administrative staff.
- 3. Supervise the day-to-day activities of the school district's staff, including reassigning the duties and responsibilities of personnel in a manner that, in the determination of the receiver, best suits the needs of the school district.
- 4. Place on extended leave, suspend or terminate for cause the school district's superintendent or chief financial officer, or both. THE RECEIVER IS NOT AUTHORIZED TO PROVIDE A SEVERANCE OR BUY-OUT PACKAGE TO THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S SUPERINTENDENT OR CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER IF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT IS PLACED INTO RECEIVERSHIP BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION. A person terminated pursuant to this paragraph may appeal the receiver's decision to the state board of education if an appeal is filed with the state board within thirty days of receiving notice of the termination.
- 5. Authorize pupils to transfer from schools operated by the school district to schools operated by another school district that is not currently in receivership.
- 6. Appoint a chief educational officer who shall possess the powers and duties of a school district superintendent. A chief educational officer who is appointed pursuant to this paragraph shall hold a valid administrative certificate.
- 7. Appoint a chief fiscal officer who shall possess the powers and duties of the school district's chief school business official and any other duties regarding budgeting, accounting and other financial matters that are assigned to the school district by law.

- 2 -

- 8. Appoint a competent independent public accountant to audit the accounts of the school district.
- 9. Reorganize the school district's financial accounts, management and budgetary systems to improve financial responsibility and reduce financial inefficiency within the district.
- 10. Establish school district fiscal guidelines and a system of internal controls, including internal administrative controls and internal accounting controls, with provisions for internal audits.
- 11. Cancel or renegotiate any contract, other than contracts of certificated teachers who have been employed by the school district in the capacity of a certificated teacher for more than one year immediately before the date the receiver was appointed, to which the governing board or the school district is a party if the cancellation or renegotiation of the contract will produce needed economies in the operation of the district's schools. The receiver may refuse to reemploy any certificated teacher who has not been employed by the school district for more than the major portion of three consecutive school years as provided in section 15-536.
- G. The receiver's power, authority and duties shall be effective on the date of the receiver's appointment by the state board of education. The receiver shall perform the receiver's duties according to the instructions of the state board of education order and according to law. The receiver shall promptly report any violations of law, including a violation of the uniform system of financial records, to the state board of education.
- H. On review and approval of the state board of education, the receiver shall take all necessary steps to implement the financial improvement plan and budget utilizing those powers identified in the plan as prescribed in subsection F of this section.
- I. The salary and benefits of the receiver and any officers or employees appointed by the receiver shall be paid by the school district. The state board of education shall determine the salary for the receiver and any officers or employees appointed by the receiver based on amounts recommended by the state board.
- J. The state board of education shall remove the school district from receivership and dismiss the receiver and dismiss any officer or employee appointed by the receiver thirty days after all of the following have occurred:
- 1. The auditor general certifies that the school district has been financially solvent for one fiscal year.
- 2. The auditor general certifies that the school district's financial records are in compliance with the uniform system of financial records and generally accepted accounting principles.
- 3. The receiver certifies that the school district is no longer engaged in gross mismanagement.
- 4. The state board of education has determined that the school district is able to pay its debts as those debts become due.

- 3 -

- K. BEGINNING NINETY DAYS AFTER THE SUBMISSION OF THE FIRST REPORT PRESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION F OF THIS SECTION, the receiver shall submit a quarterly progress report to the state board of education. The first progress report is due on the three month anniversary of the receiver's appointment by the state board. THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL REVIEW THE EXPENSES AND COSTS OF THE RECEIVER AT LEAST ONCE EACH CALENDAR QUARTER.
- L. The state board of education shall formally review the receiver's progress every six months. If, based on the quarterly progress reports, the state board determines that the receiver's progress is insufficient, the state board may remove the current receiver and appoint another receiver for the school district.
- M. The state board of education may dismiss the receiver for cause or on a majority vote of no confidence in the receiver of the state board.
- N. The school district shall indemnify the receiver and any officer or employee appointed by the receiver who is made or threatened to be made a party to any litigation by reason of their status under this section if the receiver, officer or employee acted in good faith and in a manner that the receiver, officer or employee reasonably believed to be consistent with the best interest of the school district and if the receiver, officer or employee had no reasonable cause to believe that the conduct was unlawful.
- O. During the period of time that the school district is in receivership, no member, officer, employee or agent of the school district may enter into any contract or incur any liability on behalf of the school district for any purpose if the amount of the contract or liability exceeds the receiver's authorized financial plan and budget for the school district. The receiver may discipline, including, if warranted, imposing a suspension from duty without pay, removal from office or termination of, any school district employee or officer who violates this subsection.
- P. This section does not create a private cause of action against the school district or its officers, directors, board members or employees.
- Q. The assumption of control of the school district by the receiver shall in no way interfere with the election or reelection of school district governing board members.
- R. This section shall not interfere with a school district's ability to declare bankruptcy under federal law.
- S. The state board of education shall continue to monitor and offer technical assistance to a school district for two years after its removal from receivership.
- T. ALL INFORMATION RECEIVED AND RECORDS OR REPORTS KEPT BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION DURING AN INVESTIGATION RESULTING FROM A COMPLAINT AGAINST A RECEIVER APPOINTED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION OR SECTION 15-107 ARE CONFIDENTIAL AND NOT A PUBLIC RECORD.
- U. THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION OR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SHALL IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY THE AUDITOR GENERAL IF THE BOARD OR DEPARTMENT HAS KNOWLEDGE THAT A SUPERINTENDENT OR CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER WHO WAS EMPLOYED

- 4 -

 AT THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AT THE TIME THE SCHOOL DISTRICT WAS PLACED IN RECEIVERSHIP IS CURRENTLY EMPLOYED IN ANOTHER SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL IN THIS STATE.

- T. V. For the purposes of this section:
- 1. "Delinquent debt" means debts or liability unpaid by the school district for a period of more than sixty days from the time of notice.
- 2. 1. "Gross mismanagement" means that the school district's officers or employees committed or engaged in gross incompetence or systemic and egregious mismanagement of the school district's finances or financial records.
- 3. 2. "Notice" means written notice personally served or delivered by certified mail, return receipt requested.
- 4. 3. "Receiver" means an individual appointed by the state board of education from the persons recommended by the state board for the purpose of managing a school district placed in receivership by the state board of education.
- 5. 4. "Receivership" means the state or condition of being under the control of the receiver appointed by the state board of education.
- 6. 5. "Superintendent" means the chief executive officer of the school district.
- Sec. 2. Title 15, chapter 1, article 1, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended by adding section 15–107 effective from and after June 30, 2008, to read:
 - 15-107. School district overexpenditures; fiscal crisis teams:

 quarterly progress reports; fiscal management report;
 annual report; actions resulting from
 overexpenditures; professional development;
 definition
- A. A COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT, WITHIN TWO BUSINESS DAYS, SHALL PROVIDE WRITTEN NOTICE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, IF, IN THE COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT'S JUDGMENT, A SCHOOL DISTRICT HAS COMMITTED AN OVEREXPENDITURE UNDER THIS SECTION. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER LAW, A WARRANT SHALL NOT BE DRAWN BY A COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT FOR AN EXPENDITURE THAT IS IN EXCESS OF THE AMOUNT BUDGETED AND THAT HAS NOT BEEN PREVIOUSLY EXPENDED, UNLESS THE COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT IS NOTIFIED IN WRITING BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION THAT BUDGET CAPACITY EXISTS AS DETERMINED BY THE DEPARTMENT BASED ON INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT.
- B. THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT, SHALL MONITOR THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND TO THE COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT TO RESOLVE THE OVEREXPENDITURE.
- C. IF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION DETERMINES THAT THE SCHOOL DISTRICT HAS FAILED TO TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO RESOLVE THE OVEREXPENDITURE OR THAT THE ORIGINAL NOTICE OF OVEREXPENDITURE PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION A OF THIS SECTION CONSTITUTES AN OVEREXPENDITURE THAT WILL CAUSE THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S

- 5 -

OVERALL EXPENDITURES TO EXCEED THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S GENERAL BUDGET LIMIT, UNRESTRICTED CAPITAL BUDGET LIMIT OR SOFT CAPITAL ALLOCATION LIMIT BY FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS OR ONE-HALF OF ONE PER CENT, WHICHEVER IS LESS, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL REQUEST THAT THE MATTER BE PLACED ON THE AGENDA OF A MEETING OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR ACTION PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION.

- D. AT THE REQUEST OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL CALL A PUBLIC MEETING TO CONSIDER OVEREXPENDITURES BY ANY SCHOOL DISTRICT. THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL REQUIRE THE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND ANY OTHER SCHOOL DISTRICT PERSONNEL WHO MAY HAVE INFORMATION RELEVANT TO THE OVEREXPENDITURE TO APPEAR BEFORE THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION. AFTER TESTIMONY FROM ALL INTERESTED PARTIES, THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL TAKE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS:
- 1. REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT, TO MONITOR THE EXPENDITURES OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT.
- 2. DIRECT THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO CONTRACT WITH A LEVEL ONE FISCAL CRISIS TEAM. THE LEVEL ONE FISCAL CRISIS TEAM SHALL PROVIDE ON-SITE OVERSIGHT AND OFF-SITE MONITORING FOR THE SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR NO LONGER THAN TWELVE MONTHS AND SHALL ADVISE THE SCHOOL DISTRICT ON ALL FINANCIAL ISSUES AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING RELATED TO FINANCIAL ISSUES.
- 3. DIRECT THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO CONTRACT WITH A LEVEL TWO FISCAL CRISIS TEAM. THE LEVEL TWO FISCAL CRISIS TEAM SHALL PROVIDE ON-SITE OVERSIGHT AND OFF-SITE MONITORING FOR THE SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR NO LONGER THAN TWENTY-FOUR MONTHS, SHALL HAVE THE AUTHORITY PRESCRIBED FOR LEVEL ONE FISCAL CRISIS TEAMS AND MAY OVERRIDE ANY FINANCIAL ACT OR DECISION OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT, INCLUDING EXPENDITURES.
- 4. APPOINT A RECEIVER WHO, SUBJECT TO THE DISCRETION OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION, MAY TAKE ANY ACTIONS PRESCRIBED IN SECTION 15-103, SUBSECTION F.
- E. THE LEVEL ONE AND LEVEL TWO FISCAL CRISIS TEAMS SHALL BE COMPOSED OF AT LEAST ONE PERSON WHO HAS KNOWLEDGE OF SCHOOL FINANCE AND MAY INCLUDE CURRENT OR FORMER SCHOOL DISTRICT FINANCIAL OFFICERS, CURRENT OR FORMER SCHOOL DISTRICT BUSINESS MANAGERS, CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS AND CURRENT OR FORMER SCHOOL DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS. THE FISCAL CRISIS TEAMS SHALL NOT INCLUDE EMPLOYEES OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION OR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.
- F. THE EXPENSES INCURRED BY A FISCAL CRISIS TEAM OR BY A RECEIVER APPOINTED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION SHALL BE PAID BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT. THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL REVIEW THE EXPENSES AND COSTS OF EACH FISCAL CRISIS TEAM AT LEAST ONCE EACH CALENDAR QUARTER.
- G. BEGINNING NINETY DAYS AFTER SUBMITTING THE FISCAL MANAGEMENT REPORT PRESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION H OF THIS SECTION, THE FISCAL CRISIS TEAM OR RECEIVER APPOINTED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION SHALL SUBMIT A DETAILED WRITTEN QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT TO THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION THAT INCLUDES ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

- 6 -

- 1. THE RESULTS OF THE REVIEW OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S FINANCES, INCLUDING EXPENDITURES.
- 2. THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND DECISIONS MADE BY THE FISCAL CRISIS TEAM OR THE RECEIVER APPOINTED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION.
- 3. THE STATUS OF THE FISCAL MANAGEMENT PLAN DESCRIBED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION H OF THIS SECTION.
- 4. RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION ON THE CONTENT OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING RELATED TO OVEREXPENDITURES.
- 5. ANY RECOMMENDATIONS OF POTENTIAL ACTION TO BE TAKEN CONCERNING PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATES ISSUED TO SCHOOL DISTRICT PERSONNEL BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION OR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION. THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL REVIEW THE RECOMMENDATIONS SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO THIS PARAGRAPH AND SHALL TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION.
- H. AFTER APPOINTMENT, THE FISCAL CRISIS TEAM OR THE RECEIVER APPOINTED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION SHALL REVIEW THE FINANCIAL AFFAIRS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND MAY WORK WITH SCHOOL FINANCE PERSONNEL AT THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO ENSURE THAT THE FINANCES OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT ARE IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE LAWS OF THIS STATE. A SCHOOL DISTRICT THAT HAS BEEN ASSIGNED A FISCAL CRISIS TEAM OR A RECEIVER PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION SHALL SUBMIT, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE RECEIVER OR THE FISCAL CRISIS TEAM, A FISCAL MANAGEMENT REPORT TO THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION WITHIN ONE HUNDRED TWENTY DAYS AFTER THE DATE THAT THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION APPOINTED THE RECEIVER OR THE FISCAL CRISIS TEAM. THE FISCAL MANAGEMENT REPORT SHALL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:
- 1. A DESCRIPTION OF THE FISCAL MANAGEMENT PLAN THAT HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTED TO CORRECT THE OVEREXPENDITURE. INCLUDING THE FOLLOWING:
- (a) THE MANNER IN WHICH THE FISCAL MANAGEMENT PLAN WILL ADDRESS THE FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FISCAL CRISIS TEAM.
 - (b) A TIMELINE FOR COMPLETE RESOLUTION OF THE OVEREXPENDITURE.
- (c) A DETAILED EXPLANATION OF THE METHODS AND PROCEDURES THAT WILL BE IMPLEMENTED TO PREVENT FUTURE OVEREXPENDITURES.
- (d) THE IDENTIFICATION OF ANY ISSUES THAT NEED TO BE RESOLVED BEFORE THE FISCAL MANAGEMENT PLAN MAY BE FULLY IMPLEMENTED.
- (e) THE IDENTIFICATION OF ANY LONG-TERM ISSUES RESULTING FROM THE OVEREXPENDITURE THAT WILL EXTEND TO FUTURE FISCAL YEARS.
- 2. A DESCRIPTION OF THE MANNER IN WHICH THE FISCAL MANAGEMENT PLAN WAS DEVELOPED, INCLUDING IDENTIFICATION OF THE ROLE OF THE FISCAL CRISIS TEAM OR THE RECEIVER, THE ROLE OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD AND THE ROLE OF THE ADMINISTRATORS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT.
- I. ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL SUBMIT AN ANNUAL REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR, THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. THE STATE BOARD SHALL PROVIDE A COPY OF THIS REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE AND THE DIRECTOR OF THE ARIZONA STATE LIBRARY, ARCHIVES AND PUBLIC RECORDS. THE ANNUAL REPORT SHALL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

- 7 -

- 1. A SUMMARIZED COMPILATION OF THE FISCAL MANAGEMENT REPORTS SUBMITTED BY SCHOOL DISTRICTS PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION H OF THIS SECTION.
- 2. THE ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION, THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, SCHOOL DISTRICTS, FISCAL CRISIS TEAMS AND RECEIVERS DURING THE MOST RECENTLY COMPLETED FISCAL YEAR.
- 3. RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING IMPROVEMENTS TO THE LAWS OF THIS STATE OR TO ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS REQUIRED UNDER THE LAWS OF THIS STATE.
- J. A SCHOOL DISTRICT THAT IS ASSIGNED A LEVEL TWO FISCAL CRISIS TEAM OR A RECEIVER PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION SHALL REQUIRE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING FOR SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS AND APPROPRIATE ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT, INCLUDING THE SCHOOL DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT, WHO ARE INVOLVED IN DISTRICT FINANCES AND BUDGETING, AS DETERMINED BY THE LEVEL TWO FISCAL CRISIS TEAM OR BY THE RECEIVER. THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING SHALL BE SELECTED FROM A LIST APPROVED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND THE COST OF THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING SHALL BE PAID BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT. GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS AND DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL SHALL COMPLETE AT LEAST TWELVE HOURS OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING WITHIN ONE HUNDRED TWENTY DAYS AFTER THE ASSIGNMENT OF A LEVEL TWO FISCAL CRISIS TEAM OR THE APPOINTMENT OF A RECEIVER. THE FISCAL CRISIS TEAM OR THE RECEIVER SHALL REPORT TO THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION WHETHER THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING REQUIREMENTS PRESCRIBED IN THIS SUBSECTION HAVE BEEN MET.
- K. A SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER WHO FAILS TO COMPLETE THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING WITHIN THE TIME PRESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION J OF THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF NONFEASANCE IN OFFICE, AND THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL FORWARD A COMPLAINT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL. THE ATTORNEY GENERAL MAY BRING AN ACTION IN SUPERIOR COURT AGAINST A SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER FOR FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING REQUIREMENTS PRESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION J OF THIS SECTION. IF A COURT DETERMINES THAT A SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER FAILED TO COMPLY WITH THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING REQUIREMENTS PRESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION J OF THIS SECTION, THE COURT SHALL ISSUE AN ORDER REMOVING THE SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER FROM OFFICE. ANY VACANCY IN THE OFFICE OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD AS A RESULT OF A COURT ORDER ISSUED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION SHALL BE FILLED IN THE MANNER PROVIDED BY
- L. IF ANY OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT FAIL TO COMPLETE THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING WITHIN THE TIME PRESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION J OF THIS SECTION, THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MAY TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION CONCERNING CURRENT CERTIFICATES HELD BY THAT PERSON.
- M. ALL INFORMATION RECEIVED AND RECORDS OR REPORTS KEPT BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION DURING AN INVESTIGATION RESULTING FROM A COMPLAINT AGAINST A RECEIVER APPOINTED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION OR SECTION 15-103 ARE CONFIDENTIAL AND NOT A PUBLIC RECORD.

- 8 -

- N. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, "OVEREXPENDITURE" MEANS AN EXPENDITURE IN EXCESS OF ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:
- 1. THE GENERAL BUDGET LIMIT OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR THE AMOUNT BUDGETED BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT, WHICHEVER IS LESS.
- 2. THE UNRESTRICTED CAPITAL BUDGET LIMIT OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR THE AMOUNT BUDGETED FOR CAPITAL BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT, WHICHEVER IS LESS.
- 3. THE SOFT CAPITAL ALLOCATION LIMIT OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR THE AMOUNT BUDGETED FOR SOFT CAPITAL BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT, WHICHEVER IS LESS.
- Sec. 3. Section 15-203, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended effective from and after June 30, 2008, to read:
 - 15-203. Powers and duties
 - A. The state board of education shall:
- 1. Exercise general supervision over and regulate the conduct of the public school system and adopt any rules and policies it deems necessary to accomplish this purpose.
 - 2. Keep a record of its proceedings.
 - 3. Make rules for its own government.
 - 4. Determine the policy and work undertaken by it.
- 5. Appoint its employees, on the recommendation of the superintendent of public instruction.
 - 6. Prescribe the duties of its employees if not prescribed by statute.
- 7. Delegate to the superintendent of public instruction the execution of board policies and rules.
- 8. Recommend to the legislature changes or additions to the statutes pertaining to schools.
- 9. Prepare, publish and distribute reports concerning the educational welfare of this state.
- 10. Prepare a budget for expenditures necessary for proper maintenance of the board and accomplishment of its purposes and present the budget to the legislature.
 - 11. Aid in the enforcement of laws relating to schools.
- 12. Prescribe a minimum course of study in the common schools, minimum competency requirements for the promotion of pupils from the third grade and minimum course of study and competency requirements for the promotion of pupils from the eighth grade. The state board of education shall prepare a fiscal impact statement of any proposed changes to the minimum course of study or competency requirements and, on completion, shall send a copy to the director of the joint legislative budget committee and the executive director of the school facilities board. The state board of education shall not adopt any changes in the minimum course of study or competency requirements in effect on July 1, 1998 that will have a fiscal impact on school capital costs.
- 13. Prescribe minimum course of study and competency requirements for the graduation of pupils from high school. The state board of education shall prepare a fiscal impact statement of any proposed changes to the

- 9 -

minimum course of study or competency requirements and, on completion, shall send a copy to the director of the joint legislative budget committee and the executive director of the school facilities board. The state board of education shall not adopt any changes in the minimum course of study or competency requirements in effect on July 1, 1998 that will have a fiscal impact on school capital costs.

- Supervise and control the certification of persons engaged in instructional work directly as any classroom, laboratory or other teacher or indirectly as a supervisory teacher, speech therapist, principal or superintendent in a school district, including school district preschool programs, or any other educational institution below the community college, college or university level, and prescribe rules for certification, including rules for certification of teachers who have teaching experience and who are trained in other states, which are not unnecessarily restrictive and are substantially similar to the rules prescribed for the certification of teachers trained in this state. The rules shall require applicants for all certificates for common school instruction to complete a minimum of forty-five classroom hours or three college level credit hours, or the equivalent, of training in research based systematic phonics instruction from a public or private provider. The rules shall not require a teacher to obtain a master's degree or to take any additional graduate courses as a condition of certification or recertification. The rules shall allow a general equivalency diploma to be substituted for a high school diploma in the certification of emergency substitute teachers.
- 15. Adopt a list of approved tests for determining special education assistance to gifted pupils as defined in and as provided in chapter 7, article 4.1 of this title. The adopted tests shall provide separate scores for quantitative reasoning, verbal reasoning and nonverbal reasoning and shall be capable of providing reliable and valid scores at the highest ranges of the score distribution.
- 16. Adopt rules governing the methods for the administration of all proficiency examinations.
- 17. Adopt proficiency examinations for its use. The state board of education shall determine the passing score for the proficiency examination.
- 18. Include within its budget the cost of contracting for the purchase, distribution and scoring of the examinations as provided in paragraphs 16 and 17 of this subsection.
- 19. Supervise and control the qualifications of professional nonteaching school personnel and prescribe standards relating to qualifications.
- 20. Impose such disciplinary action, including the issuance of a letter of censure, suspension, suspension with conditions or revocation of a certificate, upon a finding of immoral or unprofessional conduct.
- 21. Establish an assessment, data gathering and reporting system for pupil performance as prescribed in chapter 7, article 3 of this title.

- 10 -

- 22. Adopt a rule to promote braille literacy pursuant to section 15-214.
- 23. Adopt rules prescribing procedures for the investigation by the department of education of every written complaint alleging that a certificated person has engaged in immoral conduct.
- 24. For purposes of federal law, serve as the state board for vocational and technological education and meet at least four times each year solely to execute the powers and duties of the state board for vocational and technological education.
- 25. Develop and maintain a handbook for use in the schools of this state that provides guidance for the teaching of moral, civic and ethical education. The handbook shall promote existing curriculum frameworks and shall encourage school districts to recognize moral, civic and ethical values within instructional and programmatic educational development programs for the general purpose of instilling character and ethical principles in pupils in kindergarten programs and grades one through twelve.
- 26. Require pupils to recite the following passage from the declaration of independence for pupils in grades four through six at the commencement of the first class of the day in the schools, except that a pupil shall not be required to participate if the pupil or the pupil's parent or guardian objects:

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. That to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed. . . .

- 27. Adopt rules that provide for teacher certification reciprocity. The rules shall provide for a one year reciprocal teaching certificate with minimum requirements including valid teacher certification from a state with substantially similar criminal history or teacher fingerprinting requirements and proof of the submission of an application for a fingerprint clearance card pursuant to title 41, chapter 12, article 3.1.
- 28. Adopt rules that will be in effect until December 31, 2006 and that provide for the presentation of an honorary high school diploma to a person who has never obtained a high school diploma and who meets each of the following requirements:
 - (a) Is at least sixty-five years of age.
 - (b) Currently resides in this state.
- (c) Provides documented evidence from the Arizona department of veterans' services that the person enlisted in the armed forces of the United States before completing high school in a public or private school.
- (d) Was honorably discharged from service with the armed forces of the United States.

- 11 -

- 29. Cooperate with the Arizona-Mexico commission in the governor's office and with researchers at universities in this state to collect data and conduct projects in the United States and Mexico on issues that are within the scope of the duties of the department of education and that relate to quality of life, trade and economic development in this state in a manner that will help the Arizona-Mexico commission to assess and enhance the economic competitiveness of this state and of the Arizona-Mexico region.
- 30. Adopt rules to define and provide guidance to schools as to the activities that would constitute immoral or unprofessional conduct of certificated persons.
- 31. Adopt guidelines to encourage pupils in grades nine, ten, eleven and twelve to volunteer for twenty hours of community service before graduation from high school. A school district that complies with the guidelines adopted pursuant to this paragraph is not liable for damages resulting from a pupil's participation in community service unless the school district is found to have demonstrated wanton or reckless disregard for the safety of the pupil and other participants in community service. For the purposes of this paragraph, "community service" may include service learning. The guidelines shall include the following:
- (a) A list of the general categories in which community service may be performed.
- (b) A description of the methods by which community service will be monitored.
 - (c) A consideration of risk assessment for community service projects.
- (d) Orientation and notification procedures of community service opportunities for pupils entering grade nine including the development of a notification form. The notification form shall be signed by the pupil and the pupil's parent or guardian, except that a pupil shall not be required to participate in community service if the parent or guardian notifies the principal of the pupil's school in writing that the parent or guardian does not wish the pupil to participate in community service.
- (e) Procedures for a pupil in grade nine to prepare a written proposal that outlines the type of community service that the pupil would like to perform and the goals that the pupil hopes to achieve as a result of community service. The pupil's written proposal shall be reviewed by a faculty advisor, a guidance counselor or any other school employee who is designated as the community service program coordinator for that school. The pupil may alter the written proposal at any time before performing community service.
- (f) Procedures for a faculty advisor, a guidance counselor or any other school employee who is designated as the community service program coordinator to evaluate and certify the completion of community service performed by pupils.
- 32. To facilitate the transfer of military personnel and their dependents to and from the public schools of this state, pursue, in

- 12 -

cooperation with the Arizona board of regents, reciprocity agreements with other states concerning the transfer credits for military personnel and their dependents. A reciprocity agreement entered into pursuant to this paragraph shall:

- (a) Address procedures for each of the following:
- (i) The transfer of student records.
- (ii) Awarding credit for completed course work.
- (iii) Permitting a student to satisfy the graduation requirements prescribed in section 15-701.01 through the successful performance on comparable exit-level assessment instruments administered in another state.
- (b) Include appropriate criteria developed by the state board of education and the Arizona board of regents.
- 33. Adopt guidelines that school district governing boards shall use in identifying pupils who are eligible for gifted programs and in providing gifted education programs and services. The state board of education shall adopt any other guidelines and rules that it deems necessary in order to carry out the purposes of chapter 7, article 4.1 of this title.
- 34. ADOPT A LIST OF APPROVED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING PROVIDERS FOR USE BY SCHOOL DISTRICTS AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 15-107, SUBSECTION J. THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING PROVIDERS SHALL MEET THE TRAINING CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS DETERMINED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION IN AT LEAST THE AREAS OF SCHOOL FINANCE, GOVERNANCE, EMPLOYMENT, STAFFING, INVENTORY AND HUMAN RESOURCES, INTERNAL CONTROLS AND PROCUREMENT.
 - B. The state board of education may:
 - 1. Contract.
 - 2. Sue and be sued.
- 3. Distribute and score the tests prescribed in chapter 7, article 3 of this title.
- 4. Provide for an advisory committee to conduct hearings and screenings to determine whether grounds exist to impose disciplinary action against a certificated person, whether grounds exist to reinstate a revoked or surrendered certificate and whether grounds exist to approve or deny an initial application for certification or a request for renewal of a certificate. The board may delegate its responsibility to conduct hearings and screenings to its advisory committee. Hearings shall be conducted pursuant to title 41, chapter 6, article 6.
- 5. Proceed with the disposal of any complaint requesting disciplinary action or with any disciplinary action against a person holding a certificate as prescribed in subsection A, paragraph 14 of this section after the suspension or expiration of the certificate or surrender of the certificate by the holder.
- 6. Assess costs and reasonable attorney fees against a person who files a frivolous complaint or who files a complaint in bad faith. Costs assessed pursuant to this paragraph shall not exceed the expenses incurred by the state board in the investigation of the complaint.

- 13 -

Sec. 4. Section 15-272, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended effective from and after June 30, 2008, to read:

15-272. <u>Duties of department of education for uniform system of financial records</u>

- A. The department of education shall advise and consult with the auditor general in the preparation and implementation of a uniform system of financial records.
- B. The state board of education, shall upon ON report from the auditor general, SHALL determine whether school districts are maintaining the uniform system of financial records. If the state board of education determines that a school district is not in compliance with the uniform system of financial records or has failed to correct a deficiency within ninety days after receiving notice from the auditor general, the state board of education may SHALL direct the superintendent of public instruction to withhold any UP TO TEN PER CENT OF THE portion of state funds MONIES to the school district FOR EACH VIOLATION from the date of the determination until such time as the auditor general reports compliance with the uniform system of financial records. The auditor general and the department of education shall assist the school district to achieve compliance during such period.
- C. THE GENERAL BUDGET LIMIT AND MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS SECTION OF THE BUDGET FOR THE CURRENT YEAR AND FOR THE BUDGET YEAR IF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT IS NOT IN COMPLIANCE BEFORE THE END OF THE CURRENT YEAR, SHALL BE REDUCED BY THE AMOUNT DETERMINED IN SUBSECTION B UNTIL THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION DETERMINES THAT THE SCHOOL DISTRICT IS IN COMPLIANCE.
- D. IF COMPLIANCE IS DETERMINED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION IN THE SAME YEAR AS THE DETERMINATION OF NONCOMPLIANCE OR IN THE FIRST YEAR AFTER THE FISCAL YEAR OF THE DETERMINATION OF NONCOMPLIANCE, THE RESULTING ADJUSTMENT TO BUDGETED MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS AND TO THE GENERAL BUDGET LIMIT MAY BE APPLIED TO THE FISCAL YEAR OF THE DETERMINATION OF NONCOMPLIANCE EQUAL TO THE AMOUNT ADJUSTED IN THAT FISCAL YEAR OR TO THE CURRENT YEAR EQUAL TO THE AMOUNT ADJUSTED IN THE CURRENT YEAR. PREVIOUSLY WITHHELD MONIES THAT RESULTED FROM THE DETERMINATION OF NONCOMPLIANCE SHALL BE RETURNED IN THE YEAR COMPLIANCE IS DETERMINED.
- Sec. 5. Section 15-304, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended effective from and after June 30, 2008, to read:

15-304. Warrants: limitations: definition

A. The county school superintendent, on the voucher of the governing board of a school district, shall draw his THE COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT'S warrant on the county treasurer for all necessary expenses against the school fund of the district. The warrants shall be drawn in the order in which the vouchers are filed in his THE COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT'S office. UNLESS NOTIFIED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 15-107, a warrant shall not be drawn for an expenditure from the maintenance and operation, capital outlay, adjacent ways and federal and state grant funds for a purpose not included in the budget of the school district or for an expenditure in

- 14 -

.33

excess of the amount budgeted and not previously expended, except for expenditures authorized by the board of supervisors as provided in section 15-907. The county school superintendent shall not draw a warrant for an expenditure from any school district fund except the maintenance and operation, capital outlay or adjacent ways fund or federal and state grant funds unless sufficient cash is available in the fund according to the records of the county school superintendent. The county school superintendent may only draw a warrant for an expenditure from a federal or state grant fund when sufficient cash is not available in the grant fund if the county treasurer maintains the two accounts as provided in section 15-996, paragraph 1 and if the county school superintendent determines that the expenditures are included in the budget section of the approved grant application.

- B. A COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT, WITHIN TWO BUSINESS DAYS, SHALL PROVIDE WRITTEN NOTICE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, IF, IN THE COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT'S JUDGMENT, A SCHOOL DISTRICT HAS COMMITTED AN OVEREXPENDITURE AS DEFINED IN SECTION 15-107.
- C. THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL REQUIRE A COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT WHO FAILS TO COMPLY WITH THE NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION B OF THIS SECTION TO COMPLETE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING. THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MAY ALSO REQUIRE THE EMPLOYEES OF A COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT WHO ARE INVOLVED IN SCHOOL DISTRICT FINANCES AND BUDGETING TO COMPLETE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING. THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING SHALL BE SELECTED FROM A LIST APPROVED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND THE COST OF THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING BE PAID BY THE COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT. COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT WHO ARE INVOLVED IN DISTRICT FINANCES AND BUDGETING SHALL COMPLETE AT LEAST TWELVE HOURS OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING WITHIN ONE HUNDRED TWENTY DAYS AFTER THE DECISION OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO REQUIRE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING OF THE COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT AND THE EMPLOYEES OF THE COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT WHO ARE INVOLVED IN DISTRICT FINANCES AND BUDGETING.
- D. A COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT WHO FAILS TO COMPLETE THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING WITHIN THE TIME PRESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION C OF THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF NONFEASANCE IN OFFICE, AND THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL FORWARD A COMPLAINT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL. THE ATTORNEY GENERAL MAY BRING AN ACTION IN SUPERIOR COURT AGAINST A COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT FOR FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING REQUIREMENTS PRESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION C OF THIS SECTION. IF A COURT DETERMINES THAT A COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT FAILED TO COMPLY WITH THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING REQUIREMENTS PRESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION C OF THIS SECTION, THE COURT SHALL ISSUE AN ORDER REMOVING THE COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT FROM OFFICE.

- 15 -

- E. A COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT WHO FAILS TO COMPLY WITH THE NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION B OF THIS SECTION MORE THAN ONCE IS GUILTY OF UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT. THE ATTORNEY GENERAL MAY COMMENCE AN ACTION IN SUPERIOR COURT TO ENFORCE THIS SUBSECTION AGAINST ANY COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT WHO VIOLATES THE NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION B OF THIS SECTION MORE THAN ONCE. IF THE COURT DETERMINES THAT A COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT IS GUILTY OF UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT, THE COURT SHALL ISSUE AN ORDER DIRECTING THE REMOVAL OF THE COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT FROM OFFICE.
- F. ANY VACANCY IN THE OFFICE OF COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT SHALL BE FILLED IN THE MANNER PRESCRIBED BY SECTION 11-251.
- f. G. For THE purposes of this section, "voucher" means a summary cover sheet and either copies of the invoices of the expenditure or a listing of the invoice detail.
- Sec. 6. Section 15-341, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended effective from and after June 30, 2008, to read:
 - 15-341. General powers and duties: immunity: delegation
 - A. The governing board shall:
- 1. Prescribe and enforce policies and procedures for the governance of the schools, not inconsistent with law or rules prescribed by the state board of education.
- 2. Maintain the schools established by it for the attendance of each pupil for a period of not less than one hundred seventy-five school days or two hundred school days, as applicable, or its equivalent as approved by the superintendent of public instruction for a school district operating on a year-round operation basis, to offer an educational program on the basis of a four day school week or to offer an alternative kindergarten program on the basis of a three day school week, in each school year, and if the funds of the district are sufficient, for a longer period, and as far as practicable with equal rights and privileges.
- 3. Exclude from schools all books, publications, papers or audiovisual materials of a sectarian, partisan or denominational character.
 - 4. Manage and control the school property within its district.
- 5. Acquire school furniture, apparatus, equipment, library books and supplies for the use of the schools.
- 6. Prescribe the curricula and criteria for the promotion and graduation of pupils as provided in sections 15-701 and 15-701.01.
- 7. Furnish, repair and insure, at full insurable value, the school property of the district.
- 8. Construct school buildings on approval by a vote of the district electors.
- 9. Make in the name of the district conveyances of property belonging to the district and sold by the board.
- 10. Purchase school sites when authorized by a vote of the district at an election conducted as nearly as practicable in the same manner as the election provided in section 15-481 and held on a date prescribed in section

- 16 -

 15-491, subsection E, but such authorization shall not necessarily specify the site to be purchased and such authorization shall not be necessary to exchange unimproved property as provided in section 15-342, paragraph 23.

- 11. Construct, improve and furnish buildings used for school purposes when such buildings or premises are leased from the national park service.
- 12. Purchase school sites or construct, improve and furnish school buildings from the proceeds of the sale of school property only on approval by a vote of the district electors.
- 13. Hold pupils to strict account for disorderly conduct on school property.
- 14. Discipline students for disorderly conduct on the way to and from school.
- 15. Except as provided in section 15-1224, deposit all monies received by the district as gifts, grants and devises with the county treasurer who shall credit the deposits as designated in the uniform system of financial records. If not inconsistent with the terms of the gifts, grants and devises given, any balance remaining after expenditures for the intended purpose of the monies have been made shall be used for reduction of school district taxes for the budget year, except that in the case of accommodation schools the county treasurer shall carry the balance forward for use by the county school superintendent for accommodation schools for the budget year.
- 16. Provide that, if a parent or legal guardian chooses not to accept a decision of the teacher as provided in section 15-521, paragraph 3, the parent or legal guardian may request in writing that the governing board review the teacher's decision. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to release school districts from any liability relating to a child's promotion or retention.
- 17. Provide for adequate supervision over pupils in instructional and noninstructional activities by certificated or noncertificated personnel.
- 18. Use school monies received from the state and county school apportionment exclusively for payment of salaries of teachers and other employees and contingent expenses of the district.
- 19. Make an annual report to the county school superintendent on or before October 1 each year in the manner and form and on the blanks prescribed by the superintendent of public instruction or county school superintendent. The board shall also make reports directly to the county school superintendent or the superintendent of public instruction whenever required.
- 20. Deposit all monies received by school districts other than student activities monies or monies from auxiliary operations as provided in sections 15-1125 and 15-1126 with the county treasurer to the credit of the school district except as provided in paragraph 21 of this subsection and sections 15-1223 and 15-1224, and the board shall expend the monies as provided by law for other school funds.

- 17 -

- 21. Establish a bank account in which the board during a month may deposit miscellaneous monies received directly by the district. The board shall remit monies deposited in the bank account at least monthly to the county treasurer for deposit as provided in paragraph 20 of this subsection and in accordance with the uniform system of financial records.
- 22. Employ an attorney admitted to practice in this state whose principal practice is in the area of commercial real estate, or a real estate broker who is licensed by this state and who is employed by a reputable commercial real estate company, to negotiate a lease of five or more years for the school district if the governing board decides to enter into a lease of five or more years as lessor of school buildings or grounds as provided in section 15-342, paragraph 7 or 10. Any lease of five or more years negotiated pursuant to this paragraph shall provide that the lessee is responsible for payment of property taxes pursuant to the requirements of section 42-11104.
- 23. Prescribe and enforce policies and procedures for disciplinary action against a teacher who engages in conduct that is a violation of the policies of the governing board but that is not cause for dismissal of the teacher or for revocation of the certificate of the teacher. Disciplinary action may include suspension without pay for a period of time not to exceed ten school days. Disciplinary action shall not include suspension with pay or suspension without pay for a period of time longer than ten school days. The procedures shall include notice, hearing and appeal provisions for violations that are cause for disciplinary action. The governing board may designate a person or persons to act on behalf of the board on these matters.
- 24. Prescribe and enforce policies and procedures for disciplinary action against an administrator who engages in conduct that is a violation of the policies of the governing board regarding duties of administrators but that is not cause for dismissal of the administrator or for revocation of the certificate of the administrator. Disciplinary action may include suspension without pay for a period of time not to exceed ten school days. Disciplinary action shall not include suspension with pay or suspension without pay for a period of time longer than ten school days. The procedures shall include notice, hearing and appeal provisions for violations that are cause for disciplinary action. The governing board may designate a person or persons to act on behalf of the board on these matters. For violations that are cause for dismissal, the provisions of notice, hearing and appeal in chapter 5, article 3 of this title shall apply. The filing of a timely request for a hearing suspends the imposition of a suspension without pay or a dismissal pending completion of the hearing.
- 25. Notwithstanding section 13-3108, prescribe and enforce policies and procedures that prohibit a person from carrying or possessing a weapon on school grounds unless the person is a peace officer or has obtained specific authorization from the school administrator.

- 18 -

- 26. Prescribe and enforce policies and procedures relating to the health and safety of all pupils participating in district sponsored practice sessions, games or other interscholastic athletic activities, including the provision of water.
- 27. Prescribe and enforce policies and procedures regarding the smoking of tobacco within school buildings. The policies and procedures shall be adopted in consultation with school district personnel and members of the community and shall state whether smoking is prohibited in school buildings. If smoking in school buildings is not prohibited, the policies and procedures shall clearly state the conditions and circumstances under which smoking is permitted, those areas in a school building that may be designated as smoking areas and those areas in a school building that may not be designated as smoking areas.
- 28. Establish an assessment, data gathering and reporting system as prescribed in chapter 7, article 3 of this title.
- 29. Provide special education programs and related services pursuant to section 15-764, subsection A to all children with disabilities as defined in section 15-761.
- 30. Administer competency tests prescribed by the state board of education for the graduation of pupils from high school.
- 31. Secure insurance coverage for all construction projects for purposes of general liability, property damage and workers' compensation and secure performance and payment bonds for all construction projects.
- 32. Keep on file the resumes of all current and former employees who provide instruction to pupils at a school. Resumes shall include an individual's educational and teaching background and experience in a particular academic content subject area. A school district shall inform parents and guardians of the availability of the resume information and shall make the resume information available for inspection on request of parents and guardians of pupils enrolled at a school. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to require any school to release personally identifiable information in relation to any teacher or employee including the teacher's or employee's address, salary, social security number or telephone number.
- 33. Report to local law enforcement agencies any suspected crime against a person or property that is a serious offense as defined in section 13-604 or that involves a deadly weapon or dangerous instrument or serious physical injury and any conduct that poses a threat of death or serious physical injury to employees, students or anyone on the property of the school. This paragraph does not limit or preclude the reporting by a school district or an employee of a school district of suspected crimes other than those required to be reported by this paragraph. For the purposes of this paragraph, "dangerous instrument", "deadly weapon" and "serious physical injury" have the same meaning MEANINGS prescribed in section 13-105.

- 19 -

- 34. In conjunction with local law enforcement agencies and local medical facilities, develop an emergency response plan for each school in the school district in accordance with minimum standards developed jointly by the department of education and the division of emergency management within the department of emergency and military affairs.
- 35. Annually assign at least one school district employee to participate in a multihazard crisis training program developed or selected by the governing board.
- 36. Provide written notice to the parents or guardians of all students affected in the school district at least thirty days prior to a public meeting to discuss closing a school within the school district. The notice shall include the reasons for the proposed closure and the time and place of the meeting. The governing board shall fix a time for a public meeting on the proposed closure no less than thirty days before voting in a public meeting to close the school. The school district governing board shall give notice of the time and place of the meeting. At the time and place designated in the notice, the school district governing board shall hear reasons for or against closing the school. The school district governing board is exempt from this paragraph if it is determined by the governing board that the school shall be closed because it poses a danger to the health or safety of the pupils or employees of the school.
- 37. Incorporate instruction on Native American history into appropriate existing curricula.
- 38. Prescribe and enforce policies and procedures allowing pupils who have been diagnosed with anaphylaxis by a health care provider licensed pursuant to title 32, chapter 13, 14, 17 or 25 or by a registered nurse practitioner licensed and certified pursuant to title 32, chapter 15 to carry self-administer emergency medications including auto-injectable epinephrine while at school and at school sponsored activities. The pupil's name on the prescription label on the medication container or on the medication device and annual written documentation from the pupil's parent or guardian to the school that authorizes possession and self-administration is sufficient proof that the pupil is entitled to the possession and self-administration of the medication. The policies shall require a pupil who uses auto-injectable epinephrine while at school and at school sponsored activities to notify the nurse or the designated school staff person of the use of the medication as soon as practicable. A school district and its employees are immune from civil liability with respect to all decisions made and actions taken that are based on good faith implementation of the requirements of this paragraph, except in cases of wanton or wilful neglect.
- 39. Allow the possession and self-administration of prescription medication for breathing disorders in handheld inhaler devices. by pupils who have been prescribed that medication by a health care professional licensed pursuant to title 32. The pupil's name on the prescription label on the medication container or on the handheld inhaler device and annual written

- 20 -

documentation from the pupil's parent or guardian to the school that authorizes possession and self-administration shall be sufficient proof that the pupil is entitled to the possession and self-administration of the medication. A school district and its employees are immune from civil liability with respect to all decisions made and actions taken that are based on a good faith implementation of the requirements of this paragraph.

- 40. Prescribe and enforce policies and procedures to prohibit pupils from harassing, intimidating and bullying other pupils on school grounds, on school property, on school buses, at school bus stops and at school sponsored events and activities that include the following components:
- (a) A procedure for pupils to confidentially report to school officials incidents of harassment, intimidation or bullying.
- (b) A procedure for parents and guardians of pupils to submit written reports to school officials of suspected incidents of harassment, intimidation or bullying.
- (c) A requirement that school district employees report suspected incidents of harassment, intimidation or bullying to the appropriate school official.
- (d) A formal process for the documentation of reported incidents of harassment, intimidation or bullying, except that no documentation shall be maintained unless the harassment, intimidation or bullying has been proven.
- (e) A formal process for the investigation by the appropriate school officials of suspected incidents of harassment, intimidation or bullying.
- (f) Disciplinary procedures for pupils who have admitted or been found to have committed incidents of harassment, intimidation or bullying.
- (g) A procedure that sets forth consequences for submitting false reports of incidents of harassment, intimidation or bullying.
- 41. Prescribe and enforce policies and procedures regarding changing or adopting attendance boundaries that include the following components:
- (a) A procedure for holding public meetings to discuss attendance boundary changes or adoptions that allows public comments.
- (b) A procedure to notify the parents or guardians of the students affected.
- (c) A procedure to notify the residents of the households affected by the attendance boundary changes.
- (d) A process for placing public meeting notices and proposed maps on the school district's website for public review, if the school district maintains a website.
- (e) A formal process for presenting the attendance boundaries of the affected area in public meetings that allows public comments.
- (f) A formal process for notifying the residents and parents or guardians of the affected area as to the decision of the governing board on the school district's website, if the school district maintains a website.
- (g) A formal process for updating attendance boundaries on the school district's website within ninety days of an adopted boundary change. The

- 21 -

school district shall send a direct link to the school district's attendance boundaries website to the department of real estate.

- (h) If the land that a school was built on was donated within the past five years, a formal process to notify the entity who THAT donated the land affected by the decision of the governing board.
- 42. IF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION DETERMINES THAT THE SCHOOL DISTRICT HAS COMMITTED AN OVEREXPENDITURE AS DEFINED IN SECTION 15-107, PROVIDE A COPY OF THE FISCAL MANAGEMENT REPORT SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 15-107, SUBSECTION H ON ITS WEBSITE AND MAKE COPIES AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC ON REQUEST. THE SCHOOL DISTRICT SHALL COMPLY WITH A REQUEST WITHIN FIVE BUSINESS DAYS AFTER RECEIPT.
- B. Notwithstanding subsection A, paragraphs 8, 10 and 12 of this section, the county school superintendent may construct, improve and furnish school buildings or purchase or sell school sites in the conduct of an accommodation school.
- C. If any school district acquires real or personal property, whether by purchase, exchange, condemnation, gift or otherwise, the governing board shall pay to the county treasurer any taxes on the property that were unpaid as of the date of acquisition, including penalties and interest. The lien for unpaid delinquent taxes, penalties and interest on property acquired by a school district:
- 1. Is not abated, extinguished, discharged or merged in the title to the property.
 - 2. Is enforceable in the same manner as other delinquent tax liens.
- D. The governing board may not locate a school on property that is less than one-fourth mile from agricultural land regulated pursuant to section 3-365, except that the owner of the agricultural land may agree to comply with the buffer zone requirements of section 3-365. If the owner agrees in writing to comply with the buffer zone requirements and records the agreement in the office of the county recorder as a restrictive covenant running with the title to the land, the school district may locate a school within the affected buffer zone. The agreement may include any stipulations regarding the school, including conditions for future expansion of the school and changes in the operational status of the school that will result in a breach of the agreement.
- E. A school district, its governing board members, its school council members and its employees are immune from civil liability for the consequences of adoption and implementation of policies and procedures pursuant to subsection A of this section and section 15-342. This waiver does not apply if the school district, its governing board members, its school council members or its employees are guilty of gross negligence or intentional misconduct.
- F. A governing board may delegate in writing to a superintendent, principal or head teacher the authority to prescribe procedures that are consistent with the governing board's policies.

- 22 -

2

3

5

6 7

8

9

10

11 12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25 26

27 28

29 30

31

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42

43 44

- Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, a school district governing board shall not take any action that would result in an immediate reduction or a reduction within three years of pupil square footage that would cause the school district to fall below the minimum adequate gross square footage requirements prescribed in section 15-2011, subsection C, unless the governing board notifies the school facilities board established by section 15-2001 of the proposed action and receives written approval from the school facilities board to take the action. A reduction includes an increase in administrative space that results in a reduction of pupil square footage or sale of school sites or buildings, or both. A reduction includes a reconfiguration of grades that results in a reduction of pupil square footage of any grade level. This subsection does not apply to temporary reconfiguration of grades to accommodate new school construction if the temporary reconfiguration does not exceed one year. The sale of equipment that results in an immediate reduction or a reduction within three years that falls below the equipment requirements prescribed in section 15-2011, subsection B is subject to commensurate withholding of school district capital outlay revenue limit monies pursuant to the direction of the school facilities board. Except as provided in section 15-342, paragraph 10, proceeds from the sale of school sites, buildings or other equipment shall be deposited in the school plant fund as provided in section 15-1102.
- H. Subsections C through G of this section apply to a county board of supervisors and a county school superintendent when operating and administering an accommodation school.
- I. Until the state board of education and the auditor general adopt rules pursuant to section 15-213, subsection I, a school district may procure construction services, including services for new school construction pursuant to section 15-2041, by the construction-manager-at-risk, design-build and job-order-contracting methods of project delivery as provided in title 41, chapter 23, except that the rules adopted by the director of the department of administration do not apply to procurements pursuant to this subsection. Any procurement commenced pursuant to this subsection may be completed pursuant to this subsection.
- Sec. 7. Section 23-355, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended effective from and after June 30, 2008, to read:
 - 23-355. Action by employee to recover wages; amount of recovery
- A. EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION B OF THIS SECTION, if an employer, in violation of the provisions of this chapter, shall fail FAILS to pay wages due any employee, such THE employee may recover in a civil action against an employer or former employer an amount which THAT is treble the amount of the unpaid wages.
- B. THIS SECTION DOES NOT AUTHORIZE A COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT TO ISSUE A WARRANT IN VIOLATION OF SECTION 15-304 OR IN VIOLATION OF ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW.

- 23 -

Sec. 8. Repeal

- A. Laws 2005, chapter 274, section 2, as amended by Laws 2007, chapter 234, section 2, is repealed.
- B. Laws 2005, chapter 274, section 3, as amended by Laws 2007, chapter 234, section 3, is repealed.
 - Sec. 9. Laws 2007, chapter 234, section 5 is amended to read:
 - Sec. 5. <u>Errors in school district budget calculation:</u> correction
- A. Notwithstanding sections 15-905 and 15-915, Arizona Revised Statutes, a school district that miscalculated its fiscal year 2004-2005 budget shall be required to correct the error over a five-year period beginning in fiscal year 2007-2008 and ending in fiscal year 2011-2012 if each of the following conditions exist:
- 1. The school district provides evidence to the superintendent of public instruction that the school district's budget for the current year is properly calculated and will not result in any overexpenditures.
- 2. The total amount of the correction from the maintenance and operations fund that would otherwise be required under section 15-915, Arizona Revised Statutes, is more than two hundred twenty thousand dollars but less than two hundred forty thousand dollars.
- 3. The total amount of the correction from the unrestricted capital outlay fund that would otherwise be required under section 15-915, Arizona Revised Statutes, is more than three thousand dollars but less than five thousand dollars.
- 4. The average daily membership of the school district in fiscal year 2004-2005 was more than eight hundred eighty but less than nine hundred forty.
- B. Notwithstanding sections 15-905 and 15-915, Arizona Revised Statutes, a school district that miscalculated its budgets during fiscal year 2005-2006 shall correct the error over a six-year period beginning in fiscal year 2007-2008 and ending in fiscal year 2012-2013 if both of the following conditions exist:
- 1. The department of education erroneously doubled the amount that should have been calculated pursuant to section 15-905, subsection 0, Arizona Revised Statutes, and that erroneous action resulted in an overstated general budget limit.
- 2. The total amount of the correction that would otherwise be required under this section is more than four hundred thousand dollars but less than one million two hundred thousand dollars.
- C. Notwithstanding sections 15-905 and 15-915, Arizona Revised Statutes, a school district that miscalculated its budgets during fiscal year 2005-2006 shall be required to correct the error over a five-year period beginning in fiscal year 2007-2008 and ending in fiscal year 2011-2012 if each of the following conditions exist:

- 24 -

- 1. The school district reported a total attending average daily membership count of more than one thousand one hundred pupils and less than one thousand two hundred pupils for the 2005-2006 school year in the annual report of the superintendent of public instruction for fiscal year 2005-2006.
- 2. The total amount of the correction that would otherwise be required under section 15-915, Arizona Revised Statutes, is more than four hundred thousand dollars but less than four hundred fifty thousand dollars.
- D. Notwithstanding sections 15-905 and 15-915, Arizona Revised Statutes, a school district that overexpended its budgets during fiscal years 2003-2004, 2004-2005 and 2005-2006 is required to correct these overexpenditures plus any overexpenditures for fiscal year 2006-2007 over a five-year NINE-YEAR period in equal installments beginning in fiscal year 2007-2008 2008-2009 and ending in fiscal year 2011-2012 2016-2017. THE ANNUAL INSTALLMENTS, INCLUDING THE PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST, SHALL BE FIVE PER CENT IN THE FIRST AND SECOND FISCAL YEARS, TEN PER CENT IN THE THIRD, FOURTH AND FIFTH FISCAL YEARS AND FIFTEEN PER CENT IN THE REMAINING FISCAL YEARS. THIS SUBSECTION APPLIES TO A SCHOOL DISTRICT if each of the following conditions exist:
- 1. The total amount of the corrections for fiscal years 2003-2004, 2004-2005— AND 2005-2006 that would otherwise be required under section 15-915, Arizona Revised Statutes, is more than three million dollars but less than three million four hundred thousand dollars.
- 2. The school district did not receive state aid for equalization assistance for education during fiscal year 2005-2006 or fiscal year 2006-2007.
- 3. The school district's student count calculated pursuant to section 15-902, Arizona Revised Statutes, during fiscal year 2005-2006 is more than eight hundred but less than nine hundred twenty.
- E. In addition to the monies required to be repaid pursuant to subsections A, B, C and D of this section, accrued interest is required to be paid at a rate determined by the superintendent of public instruction.

Sec. 10. Laws 2007, chapter 238, section 1 is amended to read: Section 1. <u>School district budget overexpenditures; correction:</u> interest

A. Notwithstanding sections 15-905 and 15-915, Arizona Revised Statutes, a school district that overexpended its budget during fiscal years 2004-2005 and 2005-2006 shall be required to correct these overexpenditures plus any overexpenditures for fiscal year 2006-2007 over a five-year NINE-YEAR period beginning in fiscal year 2007-2008 2008-2009 and ending in fiscal year 2011-2012 2016-2017. THE ANNUAL INSTALLMENTS, INCLUDING THE PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST, SHALL BE FIVE PER CENT IN THE FIRST AND SECOND FISCAL YEARS, TEN PER CENT IN THE THIRD, FOURTH AND FIFTH FISCAL YEARS AND FIFTEEN PER CENT IN THE REMAINING FISCAL YEARS. THIS SUBSECTION APPLIES TO A SCHOOL

- 25 -

DISTRICT if all of the following conditions exist:

- 1. The school district is an elementary school district that is located in a county with a population that exceeds one million five hundred thousand persons.
- 2. The school district's student count for the 2006-2007 school year was more than one thousand three hundred pupils and less than one thousand eight hundred pupils.
- 3. The total amount of the correction that would otherwise be required under section 15-915, Arizona Revised Statutes, for fiscal year 2004-2005 is more than six thousand dollars but less than ten thousand dollars.
- 4. The total amount of the correction that would otherwise be required under section 15-915, Arizona Revised Statutes, for fiscal year 2005-2006 is more than seven hundred thousand dollars but less than one million one hundred thousand dollars.
- B. In addition to monies required to be repaid pursuant to subsection A of this section, accrued interest is required to be paid at a rate determined by the superintendent of public instruction.

Sec. 11. <u>School district budget overexpenditures: correction:</u> interest

- A. Notwithstanding sections 15-905 and 15-915, Arizona Revised Statutes, a school district that overexpended its budget during fiscal year 2006-2007 shall be required to correct these overexpenditures plus any overexpenditures for fiscal years 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 over a nine-year period beginning in fiscal year 2008-2009 and ending in fiscal year 2016-2017. The annual installments, including the principal and interest, shall be five per cent in the first and second fiscal years, ten per cent in the third, fourth and fifth fiscal years and fifteen per cent in the remaining fiscal years. This subsection applies to a school district if all of the following conditions exist:
- 1. The school district is a unified school district that is partially located on an Indian reservation.
- 2. The school district's average daily membership for the 2006-2007 school year was less than three hundred fifty pupils.
- 3. The total amount of the correction that would otherwise be required under section 15-915, Arizona Revised Statutes, for fiscal year 2006-2007 is more than one million two hundred thousand dollars but less than one million eight hundred thousand dollars.
- B. In addition to monies required to be repaid pursuant to subsection A of this section, accrued interest is required to be paid at a rate determined by the superintendent of public instruction.

Sec. 12. Emergency

This act is an emergency measure that is necessary to preserve the public peace, health or safety and is operative immediately as provided by law.

APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR APRIL 28, 2008.

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE APRIL 28, 2008.

. . . .

Passed the House February 7, 20 08	Passed the Senate Oppil 10, 20 08
by the following vote: 53 Ayes,	by the following vote: Ayes,
Nays, 7 Not Voting with emergency Speaker, of the House	Nays, O Not Voting Not Voting White State Server S
Somen L. Moore Chief Clerk of the House	Secretary of the Senate
	TMENT OF ARIZONA
OFFICE OF	GOVERNOR
This Bill received b	y the Governor this
day of	, 20
at0	o'clockM.
Secretary to	the Governor
Approved this	day of
ato'clock	M.
	^ ^ * •
Governor of Arizona	EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA
	OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE
	This Bill received by the Secretary of State
	this, 20
H.B. 2469	ato'clockM.
	Secretary of State

HOUSE CONCURS IN SENATE AMENDMENTS AND FINAL PASSAGE

AMERICAN AND THINGS AND THE AMERICAN AND
<u>April 22, 20, 08,</u>
by the following vote:56Ayes,
Not Voting Not Voting Speaker of the House
Chief Clerk of the House
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA OFFICE OF GOVERNOR
This Bill was received by the Governor this day of, 20
at O'LO o'clock PM.
Secretary to the Governor
Approved this day of
ato'clockM.
Governor of Arizona
Governor of Arizona EXECUTIVE OFFICE

H.B. 2469

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE

This Bill was received by the Secretary of State

this <u>28</u> day of <u>April</u>, 2068,

Janice K. Bruses
Secretary of State